

**ORDINANCE
NO. 1876**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WARREN, A HOME RULE MUNICIPALITY,
IN WARREN COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
AUTHORIZING THE PLACEMENT OF A REFERENDUM QUESTION
ON THE NOVEMBER 2016 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT
PERTAINING TO PUBLICATION OF NOTICES REGARDING THE
ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES**

WHEREAS, effective January 2, 1978, the citizens of the Borough of Warren, now known as the City of Warren (hereinafter the "City"), elected to transfer the authority to act in municipal affairs from State law to a local Charter (hereinafter the "Charter") and become a Home Rule municipality, operating under the Home Rule and Optional Plans Law (53 Pa. C.S.A. §2901 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, according to the Home Rule and Optional Plans Law specifically 53 Pa. C.S.A. §2941, amendments to the Charter may be proposed by City Council via ordinance, followed by a referendum, to the electorate of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to amend the Charter to provide for more accurate and efficient methods for publication of ordinances and related notices; and

WHEREAS, Section 702(1) of the Charter currently requires that the full text of ordinances be published when the ordinance imposes or establishes penalties; and

WHEREAS, due to advances in technology, and the increasing use of electronic communications networks (Internet) to access news, it is deemed appropriate and in the best interests of the citizens of the City to amend certain provisions of the Charter relating to publication of certain enacted ordinances; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to amend the Charter, which amendment must be approved by the electorate, it is requested that the following question be placed on the ballot at the November 2016 General Election:

"SHALL SECTION 702(1) OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE CITY
OF WARREN BE AMENDED TO PROVIDE THAT IN THE CASE OF ANY
ORDINANCE WHICH IMPOSES OR ESTABLISHES PENALTIES, A NOTICE
SUMMARIZING THE ORDINANCE AND WHICH STATES THAT THE
ORDINANCE IMPOSES OR ESTABLISHES PENALTIES SHALL BE
PUBLISHED."

WHEREAS, City Council is authorized, pursuant to the Home Rule Charter and Optional Plans Law, specifically 53 Pa.C.S.A. §2941 et seq., to adopt an ordinance placing the above question on the ballot to amend the City's Charter; and

WHEREAS, City Council desires to have this question placed on the ballot for the November 2016 General Election.

NOW, THEREFORE THE CITY OF WARREN ORDAINS, and it is hereby ordained by Warren City Council:

Section 1.

Council desires to have the following question placed on the ballot for the November 2016 General Election:

- A. "SHALL SECTION 702(1) OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF WARREN BE AMENDED TO PROVIDE THAT IN THE CASE OF ANY ORDINANCE WHICH IMPOSES OR ESTABLISHES PENALTIES, A NOTICE SUMMARIZING THE ORDINANCE AND WHICH STATES THAT THE ORDINANCE IMPOSES OR ESTABLISHES PENALTIES SHALL BE PUBLISHED."

Section 2.

This Ordinance shall be submitted to the Warren County Board of Elections on, or before, August 9, 2016 for the purpose of complying with the requirements of the Home Rule Charter and Optional Plans Law, specifically Section 2941 et seq., and that the same shall be considered the City's Ordinance to the Warren County Board of Elections for the purpose of having the question set forth in Section 1 placed on the ballot for the November 2016 General Election.

Section 3.

The Warren County Board of Elections is hereby authorized and empowered to amend the language in the question set forth in Section 1 for the purpose of clarifying the language of this Ordinance but in no way to change its meaning or intent.

Section 4.

The City Clerk is hereby instructed to publish notice of the referendum at least once per week for each of the three (3) weeks leading up to November 8, 2016 in a newspaper of general circulation in the City.

ADOPTED this 1st day of August, 2016.